

What is claimed is:

- Sub A1 1
1. A computer system, comprising:
hardware resources;
logical resources; and
a mapping process for creating a map associating the hardware resources with the logical resources.
 2. The computer system of claim 1, wherein the computer system is a network device and wherein the mapping process is a network management system process.
 3. The computer system of claim 1, wherein the map comprises a logical to physical card table.
 4. The computer system of claim 1, wherein the map comprises a logical to physical port table.
 5. The computer system of claim 1, further comprising:
an assignment process for assigning one or more functional processes to a logical resource; and
an instantiating process for starting functional processes on hardware resources in accordance with the map and the logical resource assigned to each process.
 - Sub A2 6. The computer system of claim 5, wherein computer system is a network device and the assignment process is a network management system process.
 7. The computer system of claim 5, wherein the instantiating process is a system resiliency manager process.
 8. The computer system of claim 1, wherein the hardware resources include line cards.
 9. The computer system of claim 1, wherein the hardware resources include line card ports.

Sub A3

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10. The computer system of claim 5, wherein the functional processes include device driver processes.
11. The computer system of claim 5, wherein the functional processes include network protocol applications.
12. The computer system of claim 11, wherein the network protocol applications include Asynchronous Transfer Mode protocol applications.
13. A method of operating a computer system, comprising:
creating logical resources having characteristics similar to particular hardware resources;
generating a map of logical resources to hardware resources; and
provisioning services to logical resources.
14. The method of claim 13, wherein the computer system is a network device and wherein generating a map is accomplished through the use of a network management system process.
15. The method of claim 13, wherein the map comprises a logical to physical card table.
16. The method of claim 13, wherein the map comprises a logical to physical port table.
17. The method of claim 13, further comprising:
assigning one or more functional processes to each logical resource; and
starting functional processes on hardware resources in accordance with the map and the logical resource assigned to each process.
18. The method of claim 17, wherein computer system is a network device and assigning one or more functional processes is accomplished through the use of a network management system process.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein starting functional processes on hardware resources is accomplished through a system resiliency manager process.

20. The method of claim 13, wherein the hardware resources include line cards.

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